

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method comprising:
2 receiving a first basic input/output system image to replace an existing second basic
3 input/output system image stored in a firmware memory;
4 modifying the first basic input/output system image by replacing a portion of the first
5 basic input/output system image with a portion of the second basic input/output system image;
6 and
7 writing the modified first basic input/output system to the firmware memory to replace
8 the second basic input/output system image.
- 9 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the portion of the second basic input/output
10 system image comprises configuration data for a computer system.
- 11 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the configuration data comprises boot options for
12 a computer system.
- 13 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the portion of the second basic input/output
14 system image corresponds to a portion of the second basic input/output system image locked
15 from a write operation.
- 16 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving comprises:
17 storing the first basic input/output system image in a system memory of a computer
18 system.
- 19 6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
20 comparing the portion of the first basic input/output system image with the portion of the
21 second basic input/output system image to check for compatibility between the first and second
22 basic input/output system images.

1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the comparing comprises:
2 comparing the size of the portion of the first basic input/output system image with the
3 size of the portion of the second basic input/output system image.

1 8. The method of claim 6, wherein the comparing comprises:
2 comparing a location of the portion of the first basic input/output system image with a
3 location of the portion of the second basic input/output system image.

1 9. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 using a FLASH memory for the firmware memory.

1 10. A computer system comprising:
2 a firmware memory storing an existing basic input/output system image; and
3 a processor to:
4 modify a replacement basic input/output system image by replacing a portion of
5 the replacement basic input/output system image with a portion of the existing basic input/output
6 system image; and
7 write the modified replacement basic input/output system image to the firmware
8 memory to replace the existing basic input/output system image.

1 11. The computer system of claim 10, wherein the portion of the existing basic
2 input/output system image comprises configuration data for the computer system.

1 12. The computer system of claim 11, wherein the configuration data comprises boot
2 options for the computer system.

1 13. The computer system of claim 10, wherein the portion of the existing basic
2 input/output system image corresponds to a region of the firmware memory locked from writes.

1 14. The computer system of claim 10, further comprising:
2 a system memory,
3 wherein the processor stores the replacement basic input/output system image in the
4 system memory.

1 15. The computer system of claim 10, wherein the processor compares the portion of
2 the existing basic input/output system image with the portion of the replacement basic
3 input/output system image to check for compatibility between the existing and replacement basic
4 input/output system images.

1 16. The computer system of claim 15, wherein the processor compares the size of the
2 portion of the existing basic input/output system image with the size of the portion of the
3 replacement basic input/output system image.
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1 17. The computer system of claim 15, wherein the processor compares a location of
2 the portion of the existing basic input/output system image with a location of the portion of the
3 replacement basic input/output system image.
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1 18. The computer system claim 10, wherein the firmware memory comprises a
2 FLASH memory.

1 19. An article comprising a computer readable storage medium storing instructions to
2 cause a processor to:
3 modify a replacement basic input/output system image by replacing a portion of the
4 replacement basic input/output system image with a portion of an existing basic input/output
5 system image stored in a firmware memory; and
6 write the modified replacement basic input/output system image to the firmware memory
7 to replace the existing basic input/output system image.

1 20. The article of claim 19, wherein the portion of the existing basic input/output
2 system image comprises configuration data for a computer system.

1 21. The article of claim 20, wherein the configuration data comprises boot options for
2 a computer system.

1 22. The article of claim 19, wherein the portion of the existing basic input/output
2 system image corresponds to a region of the firmware memory locked from writes.

1 23. The article of claim 19, the storage medium storing instructions to cause the
2 processor to store the replacement basic input/output system image in a system memory of a
3 computer system.

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